

THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

FACTS, NEWS, AND GOSSIP.

The Agricultural Appropriation Bill--Raid on the Cabinet--The French Spoliations Claims--Present.

[From Our Regular Correspondent.]

WASHINGTON, January 30.—The agricultural appropriation bill provides that the compensation of the Commissioner of Agriculture shall be \$4,500; chief clerk, \$2,500; chief of division of accounts and disbursing officer, \$1,800. The assistant of the last-named officer is given \$1,400, and the stenographer \$1,800, and an engraver \$2,000. There are twenty-nine clerks in the general department with liberal salaries. Then there are firemen, laborers, &c. The appropriation in this section of the bill aggregates \$65,480. The chemical department is given \$11,500, and the entomological bureau \$27,900. Expenses of the garden, including the salary of superintendent and other officers, \$18,450. For seed for distribution, \$180,200; statistics, \$109,000; animal industry, \$200,000; cattle quarantine stations, \$25,000; forestry, \$10,000; tea culture, \$3,000; silk culture, \$15,000; contingent expenses, \$15,000. It has given the printing of items in this appropriation bill so that your agricultural readers can see what it takes to run this department. The indications are that ultimately its head will be a Cabinet officer, and then its patronage will be larger. The trouble is that its chief officers and employees are from the North and know little of the wants of the South. They know nothing of tobacco or cotton culture, and come from States where cattle are fed in May in stalls and strawberries come to maturity a month after they are tired of them in Virginia—people ever get tired of them.

MR. RANDALL AND THE CABINET.

Your correspondent has not yet stated that Mr. Randall went to the Cabinet, and it is no surprise to him to learn that this distinguished leader of his party in the House would not take such a position if offered him. His visit to Albany by invitation of Mr. Cleveland shows that he is held in high esteem by him. Mr. Carlisle will also visit the President-elect by invitation, and will give his views in regard to the Cabinet.

THE FRENCH SPOILIATION CLAIMS.

On motion of Representative Cox, of New York, the House to-day instructed its Clerk to forward all the papers in regard to the French spoliation claims to the Court of Claims. His idea is that they were open to inspection and liable to destruction while in the custody of the House of Representatives.

THE DYNAMITE MATTER.

In the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House to-day the Senate resolution on the dynamite matter was referred to a sub-committee consisting of Messrs. Eaton, Rice, and Lamb. This means that no action will be taken. The idea seems to be that the committee does not want to intimate that there is a color of evidence that the American people had anything whatever to do with the attempt to blow up the Parliament houses.

THE TALLAPOOSA WRECK.

It will be remembered that Hon. George D. Wise offered a resolution calling on the Secretary of the Navy to communicate to the House everything pertaining to the loss of the Tallapoosa. To-day the Secretary replied, and it was agreed that his communication should go into the Record.

RELIEF FOR LOOKS.

There was a New York delegation before the Ways and Means Committee of the House to-day, who wanted either the duty on cloaks raised or the duty on the articles that enter into their manufacture abolished. This is what any quantity of other northern manufacturers desire. They would like to have the duty on raw materials free. For example, New York non-manufacturers would prefer that iron ore should come in without duty. This would hurt Virginia, but help them.

A VERY LUCKY SENATOR.

Senator Bowen, of Colorado, to-day received a telegram announcing that the courts of his State have decided a suit in his favor involving \$400,000, which has been in litigation for several years. The property involved was a famous mine in that State. Southern senators rarely have \$400,000.

BRIEF NEWS ITEMS.

S. C. Jacobs, of Richmond, was at the Capitol to-day.

A member of the Chicago Convention from North Carolina assured me to-day that North Carolina representatives and senators are most earnest in their support of Governor Jarvis for the Cabinet. It had been stated earlier in a Philadelphia paper. My informant is always reliable and one of the best politicians I know at Washington.

The advocates of the Mississippi river say that the river-and-harbor bill will be fought when it comes up again on their measure. It will pass, however, and James river will get \$150,000.

Chairman Barium, of the Democratic National Committee, was on the floor of the Senate and interviewed a number of Democratic senators.

General Rosecrans' opposition to the Grant retirement bill is not on account of any treatment the former received during the war at the hands of the latter. It is reported that Colonel Morrow will be arranged before the court-martial to-morrow that has just tried General Swain.

The impression is that there must be rapid work on the inauguration bill building to get it ready in time. But, then, Mr. Cleveland neither indulges in round-shoulders or base-ball. He believes that a picked crew can do both better than ordinary people.

There were few Cabinet rumors not yet chronicled. General Mahone was at the White House to-day.

Government receipts to-day: Internal revenue, \$275,802; customs, \$320,595.

XLVTH CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, January 30, 1885.

Mr. Hoar, from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported favorably the resolution providing that the two houses of Congress assemble in the hall of the House of Representatives at noon February 11th next to count the electoral vote.

Mr. Hoar called up the House resolution of similar importance, and after amending it to correspond with the Senate resolution it was agreed to. The amendment increases the number of tellers.

Mr. Hoar asked the unanimous consent of the Senate to take up the Pacific railroad bill. He did not wish to push the bill to a vote to-day, but would like to have the bill and accompanying report read, when he would make a short statement on the subject, and then propose to let the bill stand over till to-morrow. The bill and report were then read. At 2 o'clock the Pacific railroad bill went over, and the Senate resumed

THE OLD NORTH STATE.

Brilliant Reception—Education—Honor—Astrak—Railroad Matters.

[Special telegram to the Dispatch.]

RALIGH, N. C., January 30.—This evening the Monogram Club gave a reception and ball in honor of Governor and Mrs. Jarvis at Henry Hall. The reception lasted nearly an hour. Hundreds of people paid their respects to the distinguished guest. Next week Governor Jarvis goes to Greenville, where he will engage in the practice of law.

North Carolina is to have another orphan asylum. It will be in charge of Baptists exclusively. The site chosen is near Thomasville, in the Piedmont section, and J. H. Mills, late superintendent of the Oxford Orphan Asylum, will be in charge.

State Superintendent of Public Instruction is receiving many letters from county superintendents of public instruction in regard to their State Convention to be held here February 6th. The attendance thereat will be large, and some valuable suggestions regarding school law will be made.

Alexander Hoke, Esq., a prominent lawyer of Lincoln, who has become insane, has been sent to the asylum at Morgantown. He is a nephew of General Robert F. Hoke, of this city.

Mr. R. E. Brown, of New Zealand, is here, revisiting the State after twenty-five years' absence. He went from Buncombe county to New Zealand, and is a member of the Parliament of that colony and also one of its wealthiest men. He will remain here until spring. His family is with him.

Some robberies committed near Franklinton excited great interest as to the perpetrators. The law was finally captured, and found to be two negro boys, aged fourteen and nine respectively, and a negro girl aged eleven. They had false keys and jimmies.

Colonel R. R. Bridges, president of the Wilmington and Weldon railroad, is at Fayetteville, looking personally after the survey of the short line of rail from Wilson River to Fayetteville to Florence. The line is to be built by the railroad, and the survey is being made by the State.

The road will be a most important one, and its construction has for some years been a favorite project.

To-day in the House the special order was the bill to pension wounded or paralyzed Confederate soldiers. The debate was the longest of the session. The bill finally passed by its second reading by a vote of 86 to 15.

The House then, at 5 o'clock, took a recess until 8 o'clock, the evening session to be for the consideration of pension bills.

The House at its evening session passed thirty pension bills and adjourned until to-morrow.

Refunding War Tax.

[By telegram to the Dispatch.]

WASHINGTON, January 30.—The House Committee on Claims decided to-day by a vote of 9 to 4 to report a bill providing for the refunding of the tax imposed by the Government on the States and Territories in a war tax.

The following table shows the amounts of tax imposed and the amounts due the United States and released under this bill:

Alabama, \$29,313, \$29,313
Florida, 77,523, 77,523
Georgia, 434,367, 434,367
Mississippi, 483,085, 483,085
North Carolina, 576,195, 576,195
Tennessee, 669,498, 669,498
Virginia, 729,971, 729,971
South Carolina, 363,571, 363,571

The vote in the committee was: Yeas—Messrs. Dockery, Pries, Van Alstine, Tillman, Brown of Pennsylvania, Ray of New Hampshire, Ochiltree, Snyder, and Elwood. Nays—Messrs. Warner, Love, Dowd, and McMillan.

The Depreciation of Silver.

[By telegram to the Dispatch.]

WASHINGTON, January 30.—A conference was held to-day at the Treasury Department on the general question of the business prospects of the country as affected by the alleged depreciation of silver. There were present Secretary McCulloch, Treasurer Wymann, Assistant-Treasurer Acton, of New York; Messrs. William Dowd, George S. Cox, and Vermeylen, bankers, of New York. The Secretary said, in referring to the conference, that the views of all were in harmony on the general question that the state of the national finances does not call for any change in the present policy of the Administration. There was no cause, he said, to apprehend any interruption in the general business prosperity of the country, nor anything to justify the depreciation of the value of the silver certificates.

Fatal Wreck of an Express Train.

[By telegram to the Dispatch.]

JERSEY CITY, N. J., January 30.—The Philadelphia express on the Reading railroad was wrecked at Greenville this morning. Some lives are reported lost. The train consisted of four coaches well-filled with passengers. The accident occurred between Danforth Avenue station and Cemetery bridge. The train was running rapidly, when the wheel of the forward coach broke and the car was derailed. It ran into a coal train and was upset and the other three cars wrecked. The accident was witnessed by a mounted policeman, who telegraphed the facts to police headquarters. Various hospitals have dispatched surgeons and ambulances to the scene. Up to the present time twenty-five wounded persons have been removed from the wreck. Many more are to be extricated.

No person was killed, and it is not supposed any will die from their injuries, but an astonishing number of people were hurt, more or less seriously. A good many limbs were broken, and the inmates of one car, which had bumped over the ties some distance and then upset, were clad principally in rags when rescued. Twenty insensible persons were taken from one car which had a similar experience; eight of these remained insensible for one to two hours after rescue. Overturned stores set fire to the wreck in several places, but the fire was promptly extinguished by the railroad-men. The accident was caused by a broken wheel.

Postmaster Arrested.

[By telegram to the Dispatch.]

WASHINGTON, January 30.—Post-office inspectors to-day arrested the postmaster at Edenton, N. C. He was worth \$500 in his accounts. The office is in charge of the inspectors.

THE EASTERN SHORE.

The Captured Dredgers—Narrow Escape—Chincoteague Island.

[Correspondence of Richmond Dispatch.]

OSANOCK, January 30, 1885.—Information reached here last night that the oyster-steamers Chesapeake captured seven dredgers on Saturday and Monday for dredging in forbidden waters in the bay off Matthews county. All these boats, with one exception, are owned on the Eastern Shore. My informant, who left while the trial of the captured dredgers was going on, said that no evidence had been brought forward to prove that the men were violating the law, and that the prosecution was trying to convict the prisoners for some technical irregularity in their licenses. The dredgers openly declared that the oyster law is being protested to their exclusion from the dredging waters on the western shore of the Chesapeake in the interests of the oystermen on that side.

Yesterday evening Travis Crockett, with a boy twelve or fourteen years old, left Annapolis in a small open boat for Chincoteague Island, ten miles off the Chesapeake bay. When they had gone about half way over a terrible storm came down swept down on them, filling the boat with water and causing it to sink. Fortunately a punky was near enough, and went as fast as possible to the rescue of the man and boy, who were struggling to keep above the water. The weather was bitterly cold, and the man and boy were completely benumbed by the water when they were taken up by the punky. A few minutes and they were perished. They were landed in Chincoteague creek, and came here late last night, shivering and frost-bitten, in their wet and frozen garments.

A similar accident happened in Chincoteague bay several days ago, when William M. Parker, a Government employee, was crossing from the mainland to the island during the prevalence of a high wind. His little boat was capsized, and he was thrown into the water. By some means he other held on to the boat, and bailed out a portion of the water, and reached the island in a half-sunken condition.

Chincoteague island, which used to be celebrated for its traditional ponies, is now one of the most densely populated and prosperous communities in the State. Its soil being generally sandy and unproductive, the people are engaged in seafaring and commercial pursuits. It has at least 2,000 inhabitants, among whom squalid poverty is absolutely unknown. The people are intelligent far beyond those of the average rural community, and property there is very valuable, some lots recently sold bringing on an average \$3,500 an acre.

Large numbers of ponies are still raised on the marshy flats, and the annual penning is still a regular festival among the islanders, but it has lost much of its old-time romance.

An exciting scene was enacted in this town a few nights ago when Peter Nock, a gay Lothario, attempted to lead to the altar his third wife, the other two being still alive and undivorced from him. He procured a marriage-license under an assumed name and came to Osanock to be married in grand style. Just as the ceremony had been completed wife No. 2 appeared on the scene and made claims for Peter and his bride. Great confusion and excitement prevailed, and it seemed at one time that serious trouble would ensue. The bride was finally frightened into repudiating Peter, who, fearing arrest and prosecution, fled in hot haste from the seat of war and embarked for a bridal tour on a dredging schooner, and it is supposed that he is now catching hives for the benefit of his wife in the navy.

The Attention of the Authorities.

The attention of the authorities has been called to his case, and he will be duly tried at the next grand jury term.

The weather continues very cold; some of the inlets and creeks are frozen so hard as to render navigation impossible.

KALAMAS.

Rival Candidates for Office Arrested on the Charge of Being Aids to Duels.

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LATE WEATHER REPORT.

[Special telegram to the Dispatch.]

WASHINGTON, January 31—1:10 A. M.—For the Middle Atlantic States, warmer, partly cloudy weather, with local rains, variable winds, generally westerly.

For the South Atlantic States, warmer, partly cloudy weather, and local rains, variable winds, generally easterly.

The Weather in Richmond Yesterday was clear and cold.

Range of Thermometer Yesterday.

6 A. M. 31
9 A. M. 38
Noon 55
3 P. M. 59
6 P. M. 49
Midnight 40
Mean temperature 42

MAIL CONTRACTS AWARDED.

Name of the Successful Bidders for Virginia Routes.

[Washington Star.]

Contracts for carrying the mails in Virginia for the next four years have been awarded at the Post-